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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 17 April 1950

SUBJECT Communist Error in Minimizing Famine  
Conditions in China

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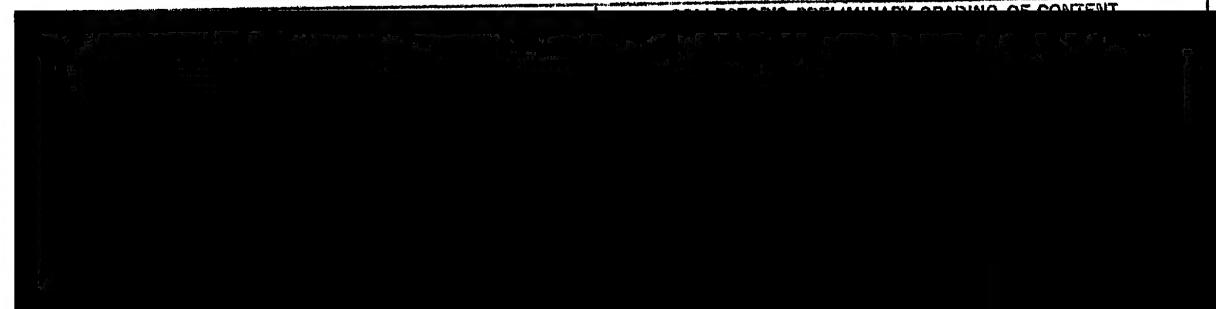
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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFO.

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In the opinion of a reputable and independent Chinese journalist in Hong Kong, who has many contacts among Chinese Communists there, the leaders of the Chinese Communist Government have made a grave policy error in minimizing the extent of the famine conditions in China. He believes that the statement denying previous announcements of widespread famine conditions was issued to get out of the embarrassing position caused by CHIANG Kai-shek's speech offering relief to the people of China and by the common belief in China that help might be coming from the United States. The statement by the Communist leaders will not be believed, as every man, woman and child knows that serious famines exist.

Comment. It is not even known whether or not the journalist's Communist contacts share the opinion.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2003

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